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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 25 May 1951

SUBJECT 1. New Military Activities of CH'EN I
2. Military Information, East China

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The Chinese Communists are making full preparations for war and CH'EN I, Mayor of Shanghai and commander of 3 Field Army, ***has been ordered to take the following steps:
 - a. Train new recruits and organize them into 8 army groups, composed of 24 armies and 5 special motorized columns, each of which will be equivalent to an army.
 - b. Supervise 3 Field Army troops in speeding up construction of fortifications along the coasts of Chekiang, Kiangsu and eastern Kwangtung.*** A large number of civilian laborers are to be commandeered to help the troops.
2. Because CH'EN I is devoting most of his time to organizing and training new recruits, his duties as mayor have been taken over by PAN Han-nien, deputy mayor.
3. CH'EN I is also strongly promoting a Join-the-Army movement and advocates training and organizing 1,000,000 crack troops and 10,000,000 militiamen for use in the Third World War. In speeches to both troops and civilians he said that the United States is the only enemy of Communism and when crushed, the rest of the world will bow to Communism.
4. East China Military Area (ECMA) units are comparatively well-trained and well-equipped. Their main duty is to maintain order locally, but they are also used as reserves for field armies. ECMA troops, numbering 250,000, are distributed as follows: 80,000 in Chekiang; 50,000 in southern Shantung; 20,000 in northern Kiangsu; 30,000 in southern Kiangsu; 30,000 in Fukien; 20,000 in northern Anhwei; 20,000 in southern Anhwei.
5. The local militia in East China has increased since land reform and consists of able-bodied men from rural areas who are still engaged in farm work but receive basic military training in their spare time. Their main duty is to maintain order locally, but they are used as reserves for ECMA units. The total number of local militia in East China is about 6,000,000, distributed as follows: 1,000,000 in Chekiang; 2,500,000 in Shantung; 2,000,000 in northern Kiangsu; 500,000 in southern Kiangsu; 250,000 in southern Anhwei; 250,000 in

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northern Anhwei; 250,000 in Fukien.

6. The total strength of the 3 Field Army units in the coastal areas of China proper is about 500,000, exclusive of 150,000 troops being transferred to Korea.

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** [] Comment. Date of information, which was reported [] was given as "recent".

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*** [] Comment. According to [] press releases, CH'EN I is to be relieved of his command.

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[] Comment. See [] concerning CH'EN's position. According to a Communist news broadcast [] CH'EN was deputy head of a People's Comfort Mission to Korea, which had returned to Tientsin []

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*** [] Comment. The coastal areas of Fukien province are probably included.

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